Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1, 8, 17 and 18. Please amend claims 2, 3, 5, 9-12, 15 and 16. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A message router system as recited in Claim [[1]] 3, further comprising a system manager that tracks activity states of embedded devices on the data network [[and]] to determine whether the embedded devices are able to receive messages.

3. (Currently amended) A message router system ~~as recited in Claim 2, further comprising~~ for a server system that communicates with embedded devices over a data network, the router system comprising:

~~a queue manager for facilitating the transfer of messages between the router and an application layer process, such that the queue manager locates and establishes a connection with the router and transfers the messages from the process to the router~~

a router coupled to a message store;

a queue manager queuing messages from one or more server processes that are destined for plural embedded devices, each of the messages being addressed to one of the plural embedded devices with a unique identifier, the unique identifier being independent of any communication protocol;

the queue manager establishing a connection with the router and transferring the queued messages to the router;

for each message, the router determining a destination address according to a communication protocol that corresponds to the unique identifier of the embedded device;

for each message, the router transmitting the message directly to the destination address of the embedded device over the data network regardless of whether the embedded device is active on the data network;

the router waiting for acknowledgment of the messages from the plural embedded devices; and

the router storing unacknowledged messages in the message store until corresponding ones of the plural embedded devices can accept the unacknowledged messages.

4. (Previously presented) A message router system as recited in Claim 2, wherein the router retrieves one or more of the unacknowledged messages from the message store when the system manager indicates that an embedded device to which the one or more unacknowledged messages are addressed is able to accept the one or more unacknowledged messages.

C1 5. (Currently amended) A message router system as recited in Claim [[1]] 3, further comprising a bulk data transfer manager for transferring bulk data between the server system and the embedded devices.

6. (Previously presented) A message router system as recited in Claim 5, wherein the bulk data are transferred to the embedded devices by the router sending the embedded devices a message to download a file and a location of the file, the embedded devices contacting the bulk data transfer manager to obtain the file.

7. (original) A message router system as recited in Claim 6, wherein the embedded devices directly contact the bulk data transfer manager to obtain the file without sending a message via the router.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A method as recited in Claim [[8]] 10, further comprising tracking activity states of embedded devices on the data network [[and]] to determine whether the embedded devices are able to receive messages.

10. (Currently amended) A method ~~as recited in Claim 9, further comprising~~ for routing messages from a server system to embedded devices over a data network, the method comprising:

queuing messages from one or more server processes that are destined for plural embedded devices, each of the messages being addressed to one of the plural embedded devices with a unique identifier, the unique identifier being independent of any communication protocol; ~~that are received from a server system prior to being transferred to the embedded devices~~

for each message, determining a destination address according to a communication protocol that corresponds to the unique identifier of the embedded device;

for each message, transmitting the message directly to the destination address of the embedded device over the data network regardless of whether the embedded device is active on the data network;

waiting for acknowledgment of the messages from the embedded devices; and

storing unacknowledged messages until corresponding ones of the plural embedded devices can accept the unacknowledged messages.

11. (Currently amended) A method as recited in Claim [[8]] 10, further comprising:

detecting whether a previously unavailable embedded device is available to receive messages; and

retrieving stored messages for the embedded device and transferring the messages to the embedded device.

12. (Currently amended) A method as recited in Claim [[8]] 10, further comprising transferring bulk data from the server system to the embedded devices.

13. (Previously presented) A method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the step of transferring the bulk data comprises:

sending the embedded devices a message to download a file and a location of the file; and

the embedded devices contacting a bulk data transfer manager to obtain the file.

14. (original) A method as recited in Claim 13, further comprising the embedded devices directly contacting the bulk data transfer manager to obtain the file.

15. (Currently amended) The message router system as recited in Claim [[1]] 3, wherein the messages are control messages directing the embedded devices to download, install, or activate content.

16. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim [[8]] 10, wherein the messages are control messages directing the embedded devices to download, install, or activate content.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)